



November 12, 2024

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Sharon Kershbaum, Director
District Department of Transportation
250 M Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

OFFICERS

Chairperson
Edward Ryder

Timothy Spriggs, Director
Department of Public Works
2000 14th Street NW
Washington, DC 20009

Vice Chair
Vince Mareino

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL: sharon.kershbaum@dc.gov; timothy.spriggs@dc.gov

Secretary
David Sobelsohn

Re: Request for Speed Bumps and Traffic Calming Infrastructure at Garfield Park and Capitol Hill Day School Intersections (TSI #24-00628184)

Treasurer
Frank Avery

At a properly noticed general meeting on November 12, 2024, with a quorum present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6B voted 7-0-0, based on the unanimous recommendation of its Transportation Committee, to submit the following request.

Parliamentarian
VACANT

Dear Directors Kershbaum and Spriggs,

COMMISSIONERS

- SMD 01 Frank Avery
- SMD 02 Jerry Sroufe
- SMD 03 David Sobelsohn
- SMD 04 Frank D’Andrea
- SMD 05 VACANT
- SMD 06 Chander Jayaraman
- SMD 07 Vince Mareino
- SMD 08 Edward Ryder
- SMD 09 Matt LaFortune

On behalf of the neighbors of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B, ANC 6B requests immediate attention to improve pedestrian and traffic safety measures on 3rd Street SE, especially between G Street and South Carolina Ave SE, and along South Carolina Ave SE between 3rd Street and 1st Street SE. In recent months, several incidents have highlighted the urgent need for traffic calming solutions on this street, which runs through a residential area with many young children, proximity to Capitol Hill Day School, and the usage of the area as a highly trafficked pedestrian corridor for residents of all ages. Increased speeding and aggressive driving behavior, unchecked by reasonable traffic calming infrastructure, have posed serious safety risks for residents, pedestrians, and pets.

Residents have observed that drivers often speed northbound on 3rd Street SE to catch green lights leading to Pennsylvania Avenue and southbound to access the highway. This pattern is accompanied by frequent stop sign violations and disregard for the ‘no turn on red’ signals at the intersections of 3rd Street SE and E Street SE. A neighbor recently noted a disturbing rate of non-compliance with safety signage, with them observing nearly nine out of ten drivers ignoring stop signs at the intersection. The recent tragic event of a neighborhood pet being struck by a vehicle is, unfortunately, not an isolated incident. Since 2020, this area has witnessed similar incidents, underscoring the need for intervention to prevent further accidents and enhance safety for families and animals in our community.

Additionally, Capitol Hill Day School has reported similar driving patterns along South Carolina Avenue SE and 2nd Street SE. The School's leadership has requested speed bumps and-or elevated crosswalks that help physically slow the top speeds possible for drivers of vehicles while increasing the visibility and clarity of the area as a pedestrian zone, particularly at the intersection of 2nd Street and South Carolina Ave SE.

ANC 6B requests that the District Department of Transportation consider the installation of speed humps on 3rd Street SE, extending from G Street SE northward, as an essential measure to curb speeding and ensure compliance with local traffic laws. Additionally, we believe that installing crosswalk bump-outs along the eastern sides of the 3rd Street corridor—from E Street SE to the freeway—could further enhance pedestrian visibility and reduce speeding, creating a safer environment for all residents. Lastly, we request the installation of elevated crosswalks and-or speed tables at the intersection of 2nd St Street SE and South Carolina Avenue SE to protect students, children, family, and pets who regularly cross between Garfield Park, Capitol Hill Day School, and the neighboring homes.

To support our request, please reference Traffic Safety Investigation (TSI) #24-00628184 submitted by a neighbor, which begins the process of reflecting the neighbors' concerns about neighborhood multimodal safety. Under the DC Safe Streets Amendment Act of 2023, we believe this area qualifies as a high priority intersection due to its proximity to schools and parks.

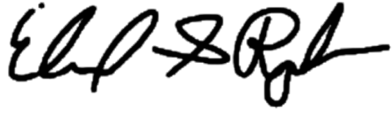
Capitol Hill Day School and advocates for Garfield Park have expressed support for these efforts and can assist in joining or co-organizing any follow-up with neighbors and impacted families. There is shared support for measures that slow down traffic in these areas, bring protected bike lanes and also take into account historic standards for streets adjoining Garfield Park. Neighbors and Capitol Hill Day School are willing to join, assist, or co-organize any follow-up with neighbors and impacted families to provide DDOT local considerations and neighbor impact statements. They urge community involvement in the process of deciding the measures implemented for the area following a traffic calming study for all of the roads connecting to and adjoining Garfield Park.

We appreciate the efforts of DDOT and DPW in addressing similar requests across the city and hope you will prioritize the critical safety measures outlined here.

Please feel free to reach out if further information or community feedback would be helpful in implementing these changes. We are more than willing to engage in collaborative efforts to enhance safety on 3rd Street SE, 2nd Street SE, the 200-block of South Carolina Ave SE and the Garfield Park and Capitol Hill Day School area.

We thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to continuing to collaborate with you on these issues. For any questions about this letter, please contact ANC 6B Transportation Committee Chair Matt LaFortune at 6B09@anc.dc.gov or the Single Member District Commissioner for the area, ANC 6B01 Commissioner Frank Avery at 6B01@anc.dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Edward Ryder

2024 Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B

CC:

Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen, DC Council – callen@dccouncil.gov

Matt Lafortune, ANC 6B Transportation Committee Chair, Commissioner, 6B09 – 6B09@anc.dc.gov

Frank Avery, Commissioner, 6B01 – 6b01@anc.dc.gov

Blake Holub, Acting Deputy Chief Operations Officer – blake.holub@dc.gov

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Jason Gray, Principal, Capitol Hill Day School – jgray@chds.org

Tyler Wolanin, Commissioner-Elect, 6B01 – wolaninanc@gmail.com